GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3054
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2016
Auction of Diamond Mines
Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum and value of imports of different types of diamonds in the country during the last three years;
(b) whether the Government is planning or has already started to conduct auctions for diamond mines in order to boost local production and curb expensive imports;
(c) if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the expected annual production from each of the auctioned diamond mines?

Answer

(a): As per available information, the quantum of various types of diamonds imported in the country during the last three years and the value spent thereon is given below:

Imports of Diamonds during 2013-14 to 2015-16 (P)
(Value in Rs '000.)

Mineral	Unit	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16(P)	
		Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
Diamond (Industrial)	Crt	3135870	6755910	520983	298568	527650	495371
Diamond (mostly cut)	Crt	146612350	1341171052	150487349	1250347957	151535570	1103784712
Diamond Powder '000	Crt	168540	1228132	351378	1494388	287431	1371128
Diamond: Total		**	1349155094	**	1252140913	**	1105651211

Source: Indian Bureau of Mines P: Provisional.
**: Quantity total is not given due to partial coverage, Value figures however have full coverage.

(b): and (c): Yes Madam. The e-auction for major minerals including diamond mineral has been introduced by the Central Government through the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015, which came in to effect from 12.01.2015. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has issued Notice Inviting Tender (N.I.T.) on 30.07.2016 bids for grant of composite licence for diamond in Hatupur.

(d): Expected total resources in million tonnes for the diamond block in Hatupur is 0.604 with average grade of 10.20 carat/100 tonnes.